What is claimed is:

1. An attribute based communication system for establishing communication channels between an originating user and a target user, the system comprising:

    an access switch associated with an originating user communication unit, the access switch configured to receive a communication request message from the originating user communication unit and determining a network identifier of a target communication unit based on the communication request message, the communication request message including an identification attribute of the target user;

    a registration database communicatively coupled with the switch via message routing equipment, the registration database configured to store a target user record indicating a correlation between the network identifier of the target user communication unit and one or more associated identification attributes of the target user; and

    a registration center communicatively coupled with the access switch and the registration database and configured to receive record editing messages from the target user to modify the associated identification attributes in the target user record.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the originating and target user communication units are wireless telephones.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the messages are messaging service messages.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the messaging service is a Short Messaging Service.

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1   5.   The system of claim 3, wherein the messaging service is a Multimedia Messaging

2   Service.

1   6.   The system of claim 3, wherein the communication request message includes a virtual

2   phone number.

1   7.   The system of claim 1, further comprising a signal connection point communicatively

2   coupled to the access switch and configured to provide the network identifier of the target

3   communication unit to the switch in response to a switch target network identifier determination

4   request.

1   8.   The system of claim 7, wherein the signal connection point is further communicatively

2   coupled to the registration database for retrieving the network identifier of the target

3   communication unit based on the one or more associated identification attributes of the target

4   user.

1   9.   The system of claim 1, wherein the message routing equipment is at least part of a

2   wireless communications network.

1   10.   The system of claim 9, wherein the wireless communication network operates according

2   to at least one protocol associated with one of the group consisting of GSM, DCS, PCS, PCD,

3   GPRS, Bluetooth, and IrDA.

1   11.   A computer based method for establishing communication channels between an

2   originating user and a target user, the method comprising:

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3   receiving a record registration message, the record registration message including one or

4   more target user attributes and a network identifier for a target user

5   communication unit;

6   storing in a target user record the one or more target user attributes and the network

7   identifier for the target user communication unit;

8   receiving a communication request message from an originating user, the communication

9   request message including an attribute of the target user;

10   determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the

11   communication request message with the target user record to identify an attribute

12   match;

13   establishing a communication channel between the originating user and the target user at

14   least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network

15   identifier of the target user communication unit.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, wherein the attributes include an attribute name and an attribute

2   value.

1   13.   The method of claim 11, wherein the attributes include one of the group consisting of an

2   occupation, a visually displayed alphanumeric string, a relative location, a set of GPS

3   coordinates, and a visible personal characteristic.

1   14. The method of claim 11, wherein establishing the communication channel between the

2   originating user and the target user further comprises concealing the network identifier of the

3   target user communication unit from the originating user.

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1 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the communication units are telephones and the

2 network identifiers are telephone numbers.

1 16. The method of 15, wherein the communication units are wireless telephones and the

2 messages are short messaging system messages.

1 17. The method of claim 12, wherein the attribute further includes a time period.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the record registration message includes plurality of

2 target user attributes, and further wherein the time period in the in each of the plurality of target

3 user attributes indicates which attribute values are available for relating the communication

4 request message with the target user record during a particular time.

1 19. The method of claim 11, wherein the communications from the originating user include

2 voice data associated with a telephone call.

1 20. A system for establishing communication channels between an originating user and a

2 target user, the system comprising:

3 means for receiving a record registration message, the record registration message

4 including a target user attribute and a network identifier for a target user

5 communication unit;

6 means for storing in a target user record the target user attribute and the network

7 identifier for the target user communication unit;

8 means for receiving a communication request message from an originating user, the

9 communication request message including an attribute of the target user;

10   means for determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by

11   relating the communication request message with the target user record to identify

12   an attribute match;

13   means for establishing a communication channel between the originating user and the

14   target user at least in part by routing communications from the originating user to

15   the network identifier of the target user communication unit.

1   21.   A computer based method for establishing an anonymous communication link between

2   an originating user and a target user, the method comprising:

3   receiving a bridge create message from the target user, the bridge create message

4   including a bridge name, a bridge password, and a network identifier for a target

5   user communication unit;

6   storing in a bridge table the bridge name, the bridge password, and the network identifier

7   for the target user communication unit;

8   receiving a bridge add message from an originating user, the bridge add message

9   including the bridge name, the bridge password, and a network identifier of a

10   communication unit of the originating user;

11   receiving a bridge connect message from one of the originating user or the target user, the

12   bridge connect message including the bridge name, and the bridge password;

13   determining the network identifiers of the target user communication unit and the

14   originating user communication unit by relating the bridge add message with the

15   bridge table; and

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16   establishing a communication link between the originating user and the target user by

17   routing communications between the network identifiers of the originating user

18   communication unit and the target user communication unit.

1   22.   The method of claim 21, wherein the communication units are telephones and the

2   network identifiers are telephone numbers.

1   23.   The method of 22, wherein the communication units are wireless telephones and the

2   messages are short messaging system messages.

1   24.   The method of claim 21, wherein the bridge create message further comprises a bridge

2   time period indicating at least a bridge termination time upon which the bridge table is cleared of

3   information relating to the bridge.

1   25.   The method of claim 21, wherein the originating user is provided the bridge name and

2   bridge password in an electronic mail message.

1   26.   A system for establishing an anonymous communication link between an originating user

2   and a target user, the system comprising:

3   means for receiving a bridge create message from the target user, the bridge create

4   message including a bridge name, a bridge password, and a network identifier for

5   a target user communication unit;

6   means for storing in a bridge table the bridge name, the bridge password, and the network

7   identifier for the target user communication unit;

8   means for receiving a bridge add message from an originating user, the bridge add

9   message including the bridge name, the bridge password, and a network identifier

10   of a communication unit of the originating user;

11   means for receiving a bridge connect message from one of the originating user or the

12   target user, the bridge connect message including the bridge name, and the bridge

13   password;

14   means for determining the network identifiers of the target user communication unit and

15   the originating user communication unit by relating the bridge add message with

16   the bridge table; and

17   means for establishing a communication link between the originating user and the target

18   user by routing communications between the network identifiers of the originating

19   user communication unit and the target user communication unit.

1   27.   A computer based method for establishing an attribute based communication connection

2   between an originating user and a target user within a dynamic group network, the method

3   comprising:

4   receiving a group create message from a group provider, the group create message

5   including a group name for storage in a group record;

6   receiving a group member registration message, the group member registration message

7   including the group name, a target user attribute, and a target network identifier

8   for a target user communication unit;

9   storing in a first port record associated with the group record, the target user attribute, and

10   the target network identifier;

11   receiving a group attribute resolve message from an originating user, the group attribute

12   resolve message including the group name, and a target user attribute;

13   determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the

14   group attribute resolve message with the group record; and

15   establishing a communication link between the originating user and the target user at

16   least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network

17   identifier of the target user communication unit.

1   28.   The method of claim 27, wherein the communication units are wireless telephones.

1   29.   The method of claim 27, wherein the attribute includes and attribute name and an

2 attribute value.

1   30.   The method of claim 27, wherein the network identifiers are telephone numbers

2 associated with a telephone network.

1   31.   The method of claim 28, wherein the messages are short messaging system messages.

1   32.   The method of claim 27, wherein the group create message further includes a group

2 network identifier, and an administrator network identifier for a communication unit associated

3 with a group administrator, and wherein the storing in a group record further includes storing the

4 group network identifier, and the administrator network identifier, the method further

5 comprising:

6   receiving a first port add message from the group administrator, the first port add

7   message including the group name, a first port name, a first port password, and

8   the administrator network identifier; and

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9   receiving a second port add message from the group administrator, the second port add

10   message including the group name, a second port name, a second port password,

11   and the administrator network identifier.

1   33.   The method of claim 32, wherein the group member registration message further includes

2   the first port name and the first port password, and further wherein the group attribute resolve

3   message further includes the second port name and the second port password.

1   34.   The method of claim 32, wherein the group create message further includes a group

2   administrator password for inclusion in the port add messages.

1   35.   The method of claim 33, wherein the group provider is a commercial establishment.

1   36.   The method of claim 35, wherein the originating user is provided the second port name

2   and second port password and the target user is provided the first port name and the first port

3   password in the commercial establishment.

1   37.   The method of claim 32, wherein the target user attribute is a visually displayed

2   identifier.

1   38.   A system for establishing an attribute based communication connection between an

2   originating user and a target user within a dynamic group network, the system comprising:

3   means for receiving a group create message from a group provider, the group create

4   message including a group name for storage in a group record;

5   means for receiving a group member registration message, the group member registration

6   message including the group name, a target user attribute, and a target network

7   identifier for a target user communication unit;

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8   means for storing in a first port record associated with the group record, the target user

9   attribute, and the target network identifier;

10   means for receiving a group attribute resolve message from an originating user, the group

11   attribute resolve message including the group name, and a target user attribute;

12   means for determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by

13   relating the group attribute resolve message with the group record; and

14   means for establishing a communication link between the originating user and the target

15   user at least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the

16   network identifier of the target user communication unit.

1   39.   A computer readable medium comprising a computer program that when executed in a

2   computer processor implements the steps of:

3   receiving a record registration message, the record registration message including one or

4   more target user attributes and a network identifier for a target user

5   communication unit;

6   storing in a target user record the one or more target user attributes and the network

7   identifier for the target user communication unit;

8   receiving a communication request message from an originating user, the communication

9   request message including an attribute of the target user;

10   determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the

11   communication request message with the target user record to identify an attribute

12   match;

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13   establishing a communication channel between the originating user and the target user at

14   least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network

15   identifier of the target user communication unit.

1   40.   A computer readable medium comprising a computer program that when executed in a

2   computer processor implements the steps of:

3   receiving a bridge create message from the target user, the bridge create message

4   including a bridge name, a bridge password, and a network identifier for a target

5   user communication unit;

6   storing in a bridge table the bridge name, the bridge password, and the network identifier

7   for the target user communication unit;

8   receiving a bridge add message from an originating user, the bridge add message

9   including the bridge name, the bridge password, and a network identifier of a

10   communication unit of the originating user;

11   receiving a bridge connect message from one of the originating user or the target user, the

12   bridge connect message including the bridge name, and the bridge password;

13   determining the network identifiers of the target user communication unit and the

14   originating user communication unit by relating the bridge add message with the

15   bridge table; and

16   establishing a communication link between the originating user and the target user by

17   routing communications between the network identifiers of the originating user

18   communication unit and the target user communication unit.

1   41.   A computer readable medium comprising a computer program that when executed in a

2   computer processor implements the steps of:

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3   receiving a group create message from a group provider, the group create message

4   including a group name for storage in a group record;

5   receiving a group member registration message, the group member registration message

6   including the group name, a target user attribute, and a target network identifier

7   for a target user communication unit;

8   storing in a first port record associated with the group record, the target user attribute, and

9   the target network identifier;

10   receiving a group attribute resolve message from an originating user, the group attribute

11   resolve message including the group name, and a target user attribute;

12   determining the network identifier of the target user communication unit by relating the

13   group attribute resolve message with the group record; and

14   establishing a communication link between the originating user and the target user at

15   least in part by routing communications from the originating user to the network

16   identifier of the target user communication unit.

1   42.   The computer readable medium of claim 41, wherein the group create message further

2   includes a group network identifier, and an administrator network identifier for a communication

3   unit associated with a group administrator, and wherein the storing in a group record further

4   includes storing the group network identifier, and the administrator network identifier, and

5   wherein the computer program, when executed in a computer processor, further implements the

6   steps of:

7   receiving a first port add message from the group administrator, the first port add

8   message including the group name, a first port name, a first port password, and

9   the administrator network identifier; and

10   receiving a second port add message from the group administrator, the second port add

11   message including the group name, a second port name, a second port password,

12   and the administrator network identifier.

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